

Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Canceled)

5 3. (Currently Amended) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:

pressurizing an extruded rubber hose;

trapping air inside said hose by sealing engagement of said hose with a mandrel

and by sealing engagement of said hose with pinch rollers; and,

vulcanizing said hose from the outside to the inside using a non-contact heater

10 energy source.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

15 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:

pressurizing an extruded rubber hose includes by supplying air to and through a

check valve in a mandrel and into a cavity formed by said check valve, said mandrel, said hose and pinch rollers;

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trapping air inside said hose; and,

vulcanizing said hose from the outside to the inside using a non-contact heater

~~energy source.~~

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A process for making extruded rubber hose comprising the steps of:

5 extruding rubber hose over a mandrel such that said rubber hose forms a seal as said hose exits said mandrel;

tensioning and sealing said rubber hose as it is drawn through pinch rollers by a haul-off; and,

10 vulcanizing, utilizing a non-contact heater, said hose intermediate said mandrel and said pinch rollers.

12. (Original) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanization occurs at a temperature of between 220°F - 350°F.

13. (Previously presented) A process for making an extruded rubber hose as claimed in claim 11 wherein said vulcanizing is performed by a non-contact steam tube.

15 14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) A process for making hose comprising the steps of: extruding rubber onto, into and through a woven fabric forming an unvulcanized

20 rubber hose;

pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with a gas;

sealing the inside of said rubber hose with respect to a mandrel;

pulling the unvulcanized rubber hose through a non-contact heater vulcanizing said

rubber hose; and,

pinching and sealing said vulcanized hose as it is removed from said heater.

5 18. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 17 wherein the step
of pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with a gas includes intermittently
supplying gas under pressure through a gas supply cup to said inside of said rubber hose.

10 19. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 18 wherein the step
of pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose includes intermittently supplying gas under
pressure through a gas supply cup, into and through a tube interconnected with said
mandrel, and into and through a check valve and into said inside of said rubber hose.

15 20. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 19 further
comprising the step of measuring the outside diameter of the vulcanized rubber hose and
varying the frequency of said intermittent supply of gas to said inside of said rubber hose
in response to said measurement of outside diameter of said hose.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

20 25. (Original) A process for making hose comprising the steps of:

feeding woven cloth over a tube and a mandrel;

supplying gas through said woven cloth, into said tube, and through said mandrel;
extruding rubber onto, into and through a woven fabric forming an unvulcanized
rubber hose;

pressurizing said unvulcanized rubber hose with said gas;

5 sealing the inside of said hose with respect to said mandrel;

pulling said unvulcanized rubber hose through a heater vulcanizing said rubber
hose; and,

sealing said rubber hose as it is removed from said heater.

26. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 25 further
10 comprising the step of measuring the outside diameter of said hose upon exit from said
heater.

27. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 26 wherein said step
of supplying gas through said woven cloth and into said tube is performed intermittently
at a frequency necessary to insure the correct diametrical dimensions of said hose.

15 28. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 27 wherein said
frequency of supplying air through said woven jacket is increased when said outside
diameter is too small and said frequency of supply air is decreased when said outside
diameter is too large.

29. (Original) A process for making hose as claimed in claim 26 wherein a check
20 valve is included in said mandrel and pinch rollers seal said unvulcanized hose as it is
removed from said heater.

30. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 26 wherein said heater may be selected from the group consisting of a steam heater, an infrared heater, an electric coil, and a hot air heater.

31. (Canceled)

5 32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose comprising the steps of:

pressurizing said hose with gas under pressure through a check valve located in a mandrel;

10 vulcanizing said hose from outside-in using a non-contact heater energy source.

34. (Original) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 wherein said step of pressurizing said hose includes sealing said hose about said mandrel and between pinch rollers.

15 35. (Currently amended) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 wherein said step of vulcanizing said hose from outside-in is performed by a heater selected from the group of a steam heater, an electric coil, a radiant heater, and, an infrared heater.

36. (Previously presented) A process for continuously vulcanizing hose as claimed in claim 33 further comprising the steps of controlling the diameter of said hose.

20 37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

5 43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

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47. (Canceled)

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